REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested in view of the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith and the following remarks.

Claims 18-23, and 36-47 are pending.

Claims 18-23 have been allowed.

In item 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, Claims 36-47 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 13 and 14 of copending Application 11/905,978. This rejection is believed to be inapplicable to claims 36-47 of the present application in light of the amendments to claims 13 and 14 in the copending Application 11/905,978. It is thus requested that the Examiner reconsider this rejection in view of the amended claims 13 and 14 in copending application 11/905,978.

In item 5, Claims 36-47 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 43 and 45 of copending Application 11/980,510. A Terminal Disclaimer is filed herewith thereby overcoming this rejection.

In view of the above, it is submitted that all of pending claims 18-23, and 36-47 are allowable over the prior art of record, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitsuaki OSHIMA et al. /Jeffrey R. Filipek/ Bv: 2008.12.12 15:55:21 -05'00'

Jeffrey R. Filipek Registration No. 41,471 Attorney for Patentees

JRF/fs Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 December 12, 2008